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STATE FOR IO

E.O. 12958:N/A TAGS: <u>PREL</u> <u>AORC</u> <u>TH</u>

SUBJECT: THAILAND UNSURE OF COLOMBO PLAN PICK

REF: STATE 58691

11. On May 8, Econoff contacted the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' International Organization Partnership Bureau regarding Thailand's short list for the position of Colombo Plan Secretary General. Mr. Thirat of the IO Bureau said the MFA had yet to solidify its position on which candidates it would support for the position. However, at the working level, he believed the RTG would lean toward one of the more well-off countries on the list as they presumed the country providing the new Secretary General would provide financial support for the organization.